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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
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GENERAL EDWIN W. RAWLINGS, USAF

Edwin William Rawlings was born at Milroy, Minnesota, on September 11, 1904. He was graduated from Hamline University at St. Paul, Minnesota, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1927.

General Rawlings was appointed a flying cadet on February 19, 1929, and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Corps of the Officer's Reserve on February 15, 1930. On May 8, 1930, he was appointed a second lieutenant in the Air Corps of the Regular Army.

His first assignment was to Luke Field, Hawaii, as assistant photographic officer, commanding officer of the 11th Photographic Section, and squadron mess officer of the Fourth Observation Squadron, successively. In December 1931, he was placed in charge of construction of the Fort Shafter Flying Field there, while serving with the 18th Composite Wing.

In May 1932, General Rawlings was assigned to Brooks Field, Texas, and during three years at that station served as adjutant and assistant operations officer; post executive officer, assistant post and group adjutant; and engineering and armament officer of the 12th Observation Group.

Going to Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, in September 1935, General Rawlings became assistant chief of the Administration Branch in the Field Service Section, Materiel Division. In August 1937, he enrolled in the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration, completing his studies there in June 1939. He spent the following four years at Wright Field, serving as assistant budget officer of the Statistical Branch, Air Corps Materiel Division; assistant budget officer of the Materiel Center; and chief of the Production Resources Section, Production Division.

Still at Wright Field, in October 1943 General Rawlings was named administrator of the Aircraft Scheduling Unit in the office of the Assistant Chief of Air Staff for Materiel, Maintenance, and Distribution for the Air Force. A year later he was given additional duty as chief of the Readjustment Division of the Air Technical Service Command there, and on August 30, 1945, he was appointed chief of the Procurement Division, ATSC. The following January he was named Special Assistant to the Commanding General of the Air Materiel Command there. In June 1945, General Rawlings received the degree of Doctor of Business Administration from Hamline University.

General Rawlings was assigned to Air Force headquarters in Washington, D. C., on November 1, 1946, and designated Air Comptroller. He was redesignated Comptroller of the U. S. Air Force in September 1947, and two years later his title was changed to Deputy Chief of Staff, Comptroller.

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On July 28, 1951, General Rawlings assumed command of the Air Materiel Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio.

His decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross, Distinguished Service Medal, Commendation Ribbon, and the Degree of Honorary Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire. He is rated a command pilot, combat observer, and aircraft observer.

PROMOTIONS

He was promoted to captain (temporary) April 20, 1935; to first lieutenant (permanent) May 8, 1940; to major (temporary) March 21, 1941; to lieutenant colonel (temporary) January 5, 1942; to colonel (temporary) January 24, 1944; to brigadier general (temporary) January 23, 1945; to brigadier general (permanent) April 1, 1945; to major general (temporary) February 3, 1947; to lieutenant general (temporary) October 1, 1947; to major general (permanent) August 11, 1950; to general (temporary) February 19, 1954.

END

Up to date as of February 1954



Gen Edwin M Rawlings